

# algebraic topology exercises

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## Homework 1

### 0 Preliminaries

In the category of sets there is a bijection  $\text{Hom}(X \times Y, Z) \cong \text{Hom}(X, \text{Hom}(Y, Z))$  that depends naturally on  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$ . The notions related to this bijection are “Cartesian closed category”, “currying” and “internal Hom”.

**Definition.** A category  $\mathcal{C}$  is *Cartesian closed* if:

1.  $\mathcal{C}$  has all finite products (Caveat: some require that  $\mathcal{C}$  has all finite limits)
2. For any object  $Y$  the functor  $- \times Y$  has a right adjoint, which we will denote by  $\text{Map}(Y, -)$  or by  $-^Y$ .

**Remark.** By section 3 [here](#), the second property above implies that we get a functor  $\text{Map}(-, -) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ , and moreover we get natural isomorphisms  $\text{Hom}(X, \text{Map}(Y, Z)) \cong \text{Hom}(X \times Y, Z)$  and  $\text{Map}(X, \text{Map}(Y, Z)) \cong \text{Map}(X \times Y, Z)$ .

**Lemma (Yoneda, [wiki](#)).** Let  $F$  be a functor from a locally small category  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\text{Set}$ . Then for each object  $X$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ , the natural transformations  $\text{Nat}(\text{Hom}(X, -), F)$  are in one-to-one correspondence with the elements of  $F(X)$ , that is

$$\text{Nat}(\text{Hom}(X, -), F) \cong F(X)$$

Moreover, this isomorphism is natural in  $A$  and  $F$  when both sides are regarded as functors from  $\mathcal{C} \times \text{Set}^{\mathcal{C}}$  to  $\text{Set}$ . ( $\text{Set}^{\mathcal{C}}$  denotes the category of functors from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\text{Set}$ .)

There is a contravariant version of Yoneda lemma asserting that if  $F$  is a contravariant functor from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathbf{Set}$ ,

$$\mathbf{Nat}(\mathbf{Hom}(-, X), F) \cong F(X).$$

**Corollary.**  $\mathbf{Nat}(\mathbf{Hom}(-, X), \mathbf{Hom}(-, Y)) \cong \mathbf{Hom}(X, Y)$ .

**Remark.** The correspondence  $X \mapsto \mathbf{Hom}(-, X)$  is fully faithful, that is, the correspondence  $\mathbf{Hom}(X, X') \rightarrow \mathbf{Nat}(\mathbf{Hom}(-, X), \mathbf{Hom}(-, X'))$  is injective and bijective.

**Exercise (a).** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be any category. Show that if for some objects  $X$  and  $X'$  we have  $\mathbf{Hom}(X, Y) \cong \mathbf{Hom}(X', Y)$  for all objects  $Y$ , with isomorphisms being natural in  $Y$ , then  $X \cong X'$ . Dually, if  $\mathbf{Hom}(Y, X) \cong \mathbf{Hom}(Y, X')$  naturally in  $Y$ , then also  $X \cong X'$ .

*Solution.* The latter correspondence sends isomorphisms to isomorphisms. Since we are given a natural isomorphism in the problem, we conclude  $X \cong X'$ . The dual statement follows from the analogue formulation of Yoneda lemma.  $\square$

**Exercise (b).** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a Cartesian closed category and  $\mathbf{pt}$  be the terminal object. Show that for any object  $X$  we have  $X \cong \mathbf{Map}(\mathbf{pt}, X)$ .

*Solution.* Using item (a) with  $X$  and  $X' = \mathbf{Map}(\mathbf{pt}, X)$ , it suffices to show that

$$\mathbf{Hom}(Y, X) \cong \mathbf{Hom}(Y, \mathbf{Map}(\mathbf{pt}, X))$$

for all objects  $Y$  and isomorphisms natural in  $Y$ .

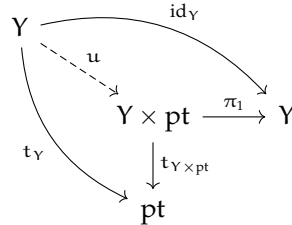
Since  $\mathcal{C}$  is Cartesian closed, we have isomorphisms **natural** in  $Y$

$$\mathbf{Hom}(Y, \mathbf{Map}(\mathbf{pt}, X)) \cong \mathbf{Hom}(Y \times \mathbf{pt}, X) \cong \mathbf{Hom}(Y, X)$$

since  $\mathbf{pt}$  is a terminal object. Indeed:

**Claim.** In a Cartesian closed category  $\mathcal{C}$  with terminal object  $\mathbf{pt}$ , we have that  $Y \times \mathbf{pt} \cong Y$  for any object  $Y$ .

*Proof of claim.* (**From StackExchange**) The universal property of the product  $Y \times \mathbf{pt}$  shows that the maps  $\mathbf{id}_Y$  and  $t_Y : Y \rightarrow \mathbf{pt}$  must factor through some  $u : Y \rightarrow Y \times \mathbf{pt}$ , making  $\pi_1 \circ u = \mathbf{id}_Y$ .

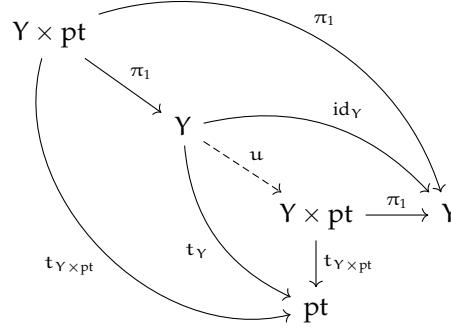


It is also true that  $u \circ \pi_1 = \mathbf{id}_{Y \times \mathbf{pt}}$ , since

- $\pi_1 \circ u \circ \pi_1 = \mathbf{id}_Y \circ \pi_1 = \pi_1$  and

- $t_{Y \times \text{pt}} \circ u \circ \pi_1 = t_{Y \times \text{pt}}$

so by uniqueness of the universal property we get that  $u \circ \pi_1 = \text{id}_{Y \times \text{pt}}$ .



□

□

## 1 Based spaces and smash product

**Definition.** The appropriate analogue of the Cartesian product in the category of based spaces is the **smash product**  $X \wedge Y$  defined by

$$X \wedge Y = X \times Y / X \vee Y.$$

Here  $X \vee Y$  is viewed as the subspace of  $X \times Y$  consisting of those pairs  $(x, y)$  such that either  $x$  is the basepoint of  $X$  or  $y$  is the basepoint of  $Y$ .

**Exercise.** For a based space  $(X, x_0)$  let  $\Sigma X$  be  $[0, 1] \times X / \{1\} \times X \cup \{0\} \times X \cup [0, 1] \times \{x_0\}$ . Check that  $\Sigma X \cong S^1 \wedge X$ . In particular  $S^n \cong S^1 \wedge S^{n-1} \cong (S^1)^{\wedge n}$ .

**Remark.** Another way of defining the reduced suspension  $\Sigma X$  (I think) is

$$\Sigma X = (I \times X) / (t, x) \sim (0, y) \sim (1, y) \quad \forall y \in X.$$

*Proof.* To see that  $\Sigma X \cong S^1 \wedge X$  simply notice that "both spaces are the quotient  $X \times I$  with  $X \times \partial I \cup \{x_0\} \times I$  collapsed to a point" (Hatcher, ex. 0.10). This is clear for  $\Sigma X$ . For  $X \wedge S^1$ , notice that collapsing  $X \times \partial I$  to a point in  $X \times I$  amounts to taking  $X \times S^1$  and collapsing one copy of  $X$  to a point. Further, collapsing  $x_0 \times I$  to a point amounts to collapsing the copy of  $S^1$  in  $X \vee S^1$  to a point.

Let's try induction on  $n$ . If  $n = 2$ , the smash product  $S^1 \wedge S^1$  is easily seen to be  $S^2$  since it consists on collapsing the boundary  $S^1 \vee S^1$  of the square whose quotient yields  $S^1 \times S^1$ . For the inductive step **Still incomplete...** □

## 2 Mapping cylinders and Hurewicz cofibrations

**Definition** (wikipedia). Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $A \subset X$ . We say that the pair  $(X, A)$  has the *homotopy extension property* if for any space  $Y$ , any homotopy  $g_\bullet : A \rightarrow Y^I$  and any map  $\tilde{g}_0 : X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $\tilde{g}_0 \circ \iota = g_0$ , there exists an *extension* of  $f_\bullet$  to a homotopy  $\tilde{g}_\bullet : X \rightarrow Y^I$  such that  $\tilde{g}_\bullet \circ \iota = g_\bullet$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{g_\bullet} & Y^I \\ \downarrow \iota & \nearrow \tilde{g}_\bullet & \downarrow \pi_0 \\ X & \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}_0} & Y \end{array}$$

A *Hurewicz cofibration* is a map  $\iota : A \rightarrow X$  satisfying the homotopy extension property.

**Exercise (a).** Prove that an inclusion  $f : A \rightarrow X$  is a Hurewicz cofibration if and only if  $A \times I \cup X \times \{0\}$  is a retract of  $X \times I$ .

**Remark.** A little late I noticed the comment on Telegram that we may assume  $A$  to be a closed subspace. Maybe I wouldn't have tried the solution following Miller if I had knew this earlier, hehe— still it was nice to see two different solutions.

*Solution following Hatcher.* ( $\implies$ ) According to the former definition, choose  $Y = (X \times \{0\}) \cup (A \times I)$ . The inclusion  $A \times I \hookrightarrow Y$  is an homotopy  $g_\bullet$  from  $A$  to  $Y$ . Also, the inclusion  $X \times \{0\} \hookrightarrow Y$  is an extension  $\tilde{g}_0$ . Then there exists an extension  $\tilde{g}_\bullet$  of the whole homotopy, which is just a map from  $X \times I$  to  $Y$ . We have thus produced a retraction:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (X \times \{0\}) \cup (A \times I) & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & (X \times \{0\}) \cup (A \times I) = Y \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \\ X \times I & & \end{array}$$

( $\impliedby$ ) Now suppose that  $(X \times \{0\}) \cup (A \times I)$  is a retract of  $X \times I$ . Let  $Y$  be any space,  $g_\bullet : A \rightarrow Y^I$  an homotopy and  $\tilde{g}_0$  a map such that  $\tilde{g}_0 = g_0 \circ f$ .

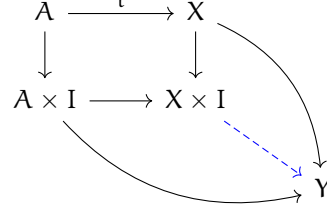
The homotopy  $g_\bullet$  along with  $\tilde{g}_0$  yield a map  $\varphi : (A \times I) \cup (X \times \{0\}) \rightarrow Y \cup (X \times \{0\})$ . The key observation is that if  $A$  is closed in  $X$ , then this map is continuous by the [gluing lemma](#). Then we simply compose the given retraction  $r$  with this map to obtain the homotopy extension:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \times I & \xrightarrow{\quad g_\bullet \quad} & Y \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \varphi & \\ X \times I & \xrightarrow{\quad \tilde{g}_0 \quad} & Y \end{array}$$

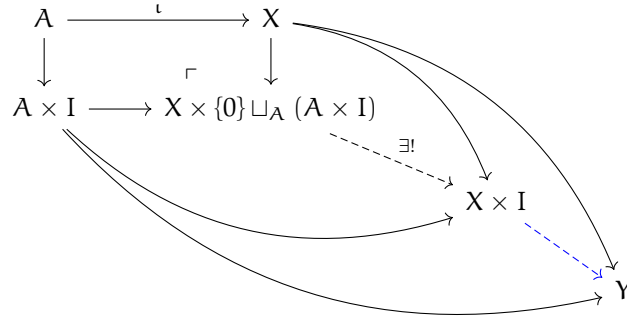
$(X \times \{0\}) \cup (A \times I)$

A complicated argument in Hatcher's appendix shows that such a function is continuous even without the assumption that  $A$  is closed.  $\square$

*Solution following Miller.* The homotopy extension property may be defined as a map  $\iota : A \rightarrow X$  such that for any solid-arrow diagram as below, a dotted blue arrow exists making the whole diagram commute:



Now consider the pushout corresponding to  $\iota$  and the inclusion  $A \rightarrow A \times I$ . By the universal property of the pushout, the former diagram must factor by the pushout, and we get the following diagram:



The implication  $(\implies)$  of our exercise again follows by choosing  $Y = (X \times \{0\}) \cup (A \times I)$ . For the implication  $(\impliedby)$  **it appears that we have the same problem as before**: we need to construct the blue dashed arrow from the rest of the diagram (using that the black dashed arrow has a left inverse), but it seems that the natural thing to do is defining this function from the two pieces just like before, and we must make sure it is continuous.  $\square$

**Definition.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a map. Let  $M_f = X \times [0, 1] \cup_f Y$  be the *mapping cylinder of  $f$* , i.e. the pushout of  $X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \times \{0\} \hookrightarrow X \times [0, 1]$  and of  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ . Let  $g : X \rightarrow M_f$  be the map  $X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \times \{1\} \rightarrow M_f$ . Let  $h : M_f \rightarrow Y$  be the map that is induced by  $X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Y : (x, t) \mapsto f(x)$  and  $\text{id}_Y : Y \rightarrow Y$ . Observe that  $f$  is the composition of  $g$  and  $h$ .

**Remark.** In both exercises below you might have to use the fact that pushouts are colimits and that colimits commute with products in CGWH, i.e.  $(\text{colim } A_i) \times B$  is canonically homeomorphic with  $\text{colim}(A_i \times B)$ .

**Exercise.**

- Show that  $h$  is a deformation retract, and in particular is a homotopy equivalence.
- Show that  $g : X \rightarrow M_f$  is a cofibration. You may use exercise (a), but the direct proof might be simpler.

*Solution.*

b. We have that

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X \times \{0\} & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\
 \text{id} \times 1 \downarrow & \searrow g & \downarrow \\
 X \times I & \xrightarrow{\quad} & M_f \\
 & \searrow \text{curved} & \downarrow \text{dashed } h \\
 & & Y
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 \text{curved } (x,t) \mapsto f(x) \\
 \text{curved } \text{id}_Y
 \end{array}$$

We must show that there is a homotopy between the identity map on  $M_f$  and a retraction from  $M_f$  to  $Y$ . So we want  $h : M_f \times I \rightarrow M_f$  such that

$$h(-,0) = \text{id}_{M_f}, \quad \text{img } h(-,1) \subset Y \quad \text{and} \quad h(-,1)|_Y = \text{id}_Y$$

Since  $M_f$  is a pullback, we can see it as a colimit, that is

$$M_f = \text{colim}( X \times I \leftarrow X \rightarrow Y )$$

and, since colimits commute with products in CGWH, we get

$$M_f \times I = \text{colim}( X \times I \times I \leftarrow X \times I \rightarrow Y \times I )$$

that is,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X \times \{0\} \times I & \longrightarrow & Y \times I \\
 \downarrow & \nearrow \text{curved} & \downarrow ? \\
 X \times I \times I & \xrightarrow{\quad ? \quad} & M_f \times I \\
 & \searrow \text{curved} & \downarrow \text{dashed} \\
 & & M_f
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 \text{curved } (y,s) \mapsto y \\
 \text{curved } (x,t,s) \mapsto f(x)
 \end{array}$$

[I certainly got stuck in concluding...]

c. [Also in progress...] Consider the following lifting problem:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{H} & Z^I \\
 g \downarrow & \nearrow \text{dashed} & \downarrow \pi_{t_0} \\
 M_f & \xrightarrow{h} & Z
 \end{array}$$

□

### 3 Path spaces and fibrations

**Exercise.**

- a. Show that  $\text{Map}(I, Y)$  deformation retracts on  $\text{Map}(\text{pt}, Y)$ . Most likely you'll have to find a correct map  $I \times I \rightarrow I$ . Also show that  $\text{Map}(I, Y) \rightarrow \text{Map}(\text{pt}, Y)$  is a Hurewicz fibration. The key map will be of the form  $I \times I \rightarrow I \times I$ .

*Solution.*

- a. ( **$\text{Map}(I, Y) \rightarrow \text{Map}(\text{pt}, Y)$  is a Hurewicz fibration.**) Let  $A$  be any space. We must show that for any homotopy  $H$  and lift  $h_0$  there exists an homotopy  $\tilde{H}$  as in the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \times \{0\} & \xrightarrow{h_0} & \text{Map}(I, Y) \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \tilde{H} & \downarrow p \\ A \times I & \xrightarrow{H} & \text{Map}(0, Y) \end{array}$$

From the isomorphism  $\text{Map}(X \times Y, Z) \cong \text{Map}(X, \text{Map}(Y, Z))$  we may rewrite the problem as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \times \{0\}) \times I & & \\ & \searrow H_0 & \\ (A \times I) \times I & \xrightarrow{\tilde{H}} & Y \\ & \nearrow H & \\ (A \times I) \times \{0\} & & \end{array}$$

So we define the dashed arrow by

$$(\alpha, s, t) \mapsto \begin{cases} H_0(\alpha, 0, s - t) & \text{when } s - t \geq 0 \\ H(\alpha, t - s, 0) & \text{when } s - t \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

so that when  $s = t$  the functions coincide, when  $s = 0$  we get  $H$  and when  $t = 0$  we get  $H_0$ .

( **$\text{Map}(I, Y)$  deformation retracts on  $\text{Map}(\text{pt}, Y)$ .**) We must show there is a homotopy

$$h : \text{Map}(I, Y) \times I \longrightarrow \text{Map}(I, Y)$$

such that

$$h(-, 0) = \text{id}_{\text{Map}(I, Y)}, \quad h(-, 1) \subset \text{Map}(\text{pt}, Y)$$

$$\text{and} \quad h(-, 1)|_{\text{Map}(\text{pt}, Y)} = \text{id}_{\text{Map}(\text{pt}, Y)}.$$

Consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} I \times I &\rightarrow I \\ (s, t) &\mapsto s - st \end{aligned}$$

Our deformation retract may be written like

$$h : \text{Map}(I, Y) \times I \longrightarrow \text{Map}(I, Y)$$

$$(f(s), t) \longmapsto f(s - st)$$

Then for  $t = 0$  we have the identity on  $\text{Map}(I, Y)$ , and when  $t = 1$  we have  $\text{ev}_0$ .

□

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a map. Let  $E_f$  be the pullback of  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and of  $\text{ev}_0 : \text{Map}(I, Y) \rightarrow Y$ . Let  $h : X \rightarrow E_f$  be the map that sends  $x$  to  $(x, \text{const}(f(x)))$ , where  $\text{const}(f(x)) : I \rightarrow Y$  is the constant path at  $f(x)$ . Let  $g : E_f \rightarrow Y$  be the composition of projection map  $E_f \rightarrow \text{Map}(I, Y)$  with  $\text{ev}_1 : \text{Map}(I, Y) \rightarrow Y$ .

## Homework 1.5

### 1 Exercise on model categories

**Exercise (3.1.8 from Riehl).** Verify that the class of morphisms  $\mathcal{L}$  characterized by the left lifting property against a fixed class of morphisms  $\mathcal{R}$  is closed under coproducts, closed under retracts, and contains the isomorphisms.

*Solution. (Coproducts.)* Suppose the maps  $\ell_i : A_i \rightarrow B_i$  are in  $\mathcal{L}$ . Then their coproduct in the arrow category is the obvious map  $\coprod A_i \rightarrow \coprod B_i$ .

Explicitly, their coproduct is an arrow  $\coprod \ell_i$  and a collection of maps  $f_i : \ell_i \rightarrow \coprod \ell_i$  such that for any other object  $m : A \rightarrow B$  in the arrow category and a map  $g : \ell \rightarrow m$ , the following diagram is completed uniquely:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \ell_i & \xrightarrow{f_i} & \coprod \ell_i \xrightarrow{\exists!} m \\ & \searrow g & \uparrow \\ & & \end{array} \quad \forall i$$

So we conclude that the source of  $\coprod \ell_i$  is  $\coprod A_i$  and its target  $\coprod B_i$ . Indeed, we really looking at

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_i & \xrightarrow{\ell_i} & B_i \\ f_i^! \downarrow & & \downarrow f_i^2 \\ \coprod A_i & \xrightarrow{\coprod \ell_i} & \coprod B_i \\ \exists! \downarrow & & \downarrow \exists! \\ A & \xrightarrow{m} & B \end{array}$$



Now consider the following lifting problem with respect to a morphism  $r \in \mathcal{R}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \coprod A_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ \downarrow \coprod \ell_i & & \downarrow r \in \mathcal{R} \\ \coprod B_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \end{array}$$

Since  $\ell_i \in \mathcal{L}$ , we have maps

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod A_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ \mathcal{L} \ni \ell_i \downarrow & & \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow r \in \mathcal{R} \\ B_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod B_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \end{array}$$

which in turn means we have a unique map

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod A_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ \mathcal{L} \ni \ell_i \downarrow & & \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow r \in \mathcal{R} \\ B_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod B_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \end{array}$$

by the universal property of the coproduct  $\coprod B_i$ .

To conclude we need to check that the triangles below and above the dashed arrow in the former diagram commute. This follows from the universal property of the coproducts  $\coprod A_i$  and  $\coprod B_i$  since, [in general](#),

$$\mathrm{Hom}\left(\coprod X_i, Y\right) \cong \prod \mathrm{Hom}(X_i, Y).$$

More explicitly, we now that the red paths in the following diagrams are the same:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{ccccc} A_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod A_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ \mathcal{L} \ni \ell_i \downarrow & & \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow r \in \mathcal{R} \\ B_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod B_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \end{array} & \text{and} & \begin{array}{ccccc} A_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod A_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ \mathcal{L} \ni \ell_i \downarrow & & \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow r \in \mathcal{R} \\ B_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod B_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \end{array} \end{array}$$

and also

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{ccccc} A_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod A_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ \mathcal{L} \ni \ell_i \downarrow & & \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow r \in \mathcal{R} \\ B_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod B_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \end{array} & \text{and} & \begin{array}{ccccc} A_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod A_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ \mathcal{L} \ni \ell_i \downarrow & & \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow r \in \mathcal{R} \\ B_i & \longrightarrow & \coprod B_i & \longrightarrow & \bullet \end{array} \end{array}$$

so the conclusion follows from the former comment.

**(Closed under retracts.)** Let us at least state what a retract of a morphism  $g$  should be in the arrow category. Recall that a retract is just

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \longrightarrow & Y & \longrightarrow & X \\ & \searrow & & \nearrow & \\ & \text{id}_X & & & \end{array}$$

So in the arrow category we get

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow g & & \downarrow f \\ \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet \\ & \searrow & & \nearrow & \\ & \text{id} & & & \end{array}$$

□

## 2 Hatcher's exercise on Whitehead's theorem

**Theorem 1 (Whitehead, May).** If  $X$  is a CW complex and  $e : Y \rightarrow Z$  is an  $n$ -equivalence, then  $e_* : [X, Y] \rightarrow [X, Z]$  is a bijection if  $\dim X < n$  and surjection if  $\dim X = n$ .

**Theorem 2 (Whitehead, May).** An  $n$ -equivalence between CW complexes of dimension less than  $n$  is a homotopy equivalence. A weak equivalence between CW complexes is a homotopy equivalence.

**Theorem 3 (Whitehead (4.5), Hatcher).** If a map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  between connected CW complexes induces isomorphisms  $f_* : \pi_n(X) \rightarrow \pi_n(Y)$  for all  $n$ , then  $f$  is a homotopy equivalence. In case  $f$  is the inclusion of a subcomplex  $X \hookrightarrow Y$ , the conclusion is stronger:  $X$  is a deformation retract of  $Y$ .

**Exercise (Hatcher 4.1.12).** Show that an  $n$ -connected,  $n$ -dimensional CW complex is contractible.

*Solution.* Just recall that  $n$ -connectedness means that  $\pi_i(X) = 0$  for all  $i \leq n$ , which means that  $X$  is contractible by theorem 2. □

## Homework 2

**Definition (H-space, Hatcher p. 281).**  $X$  is an *H-space*, 'H' standing for Hopf, if there is a continuous multiplication map  $\mu : X \times X \rightarrow X$  and an identity element  $e \in X$  such that the two maps  $X \rightarrow X$  given by  $x \mapsto \mu(x, e)$  and  $x \mapsto \mu(e, x)$  are homotopic to the identity through maps  $(X, e) \rightarrow (X, e)$ .

**Exercise (4.1.3).** For an H-space  $(X, x_0)$  with multiplication  $\mu : X \times X \rightarrow X$ , show that the group operation in  $\pi_n(X, x_0)$  can also be defined by the rule  $(f + g)(x) = \mu(f(x), g(x))$ .

*Solution.* According to the [Eckmann-Hilton argument](#), we may show that  $\pi_n(X, x_0)$  with the usual operation  $+$  and the operation  $\oplus$  given by  $(f \oplus g)(x) = \mu(f(x), g(x))$  coincide if we manage to show that for all  $a, b, c, d \in \pi_n(X, x_0)$

$$(a + b) \oplus (c + d) = (a \oplus c) + (b \oplus d).$$

This follows from definitions. Recall that for  $f, g \in \pi_n(X, x_0)$ ,

$$(f + g)(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n) = \begin{cases} f(2s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n) & s_1 \in [0, 1/2] \\ g(2s_1 - 1, s_2, \dots, s_n) & s_1 \in [1/2, 1] \end{cases}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} (a \oplus c) + (b \oplus d) &= \begin{cases} (a \oplus c)(2s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n) & s_1 \in [0, 1/2] \\ (b \oplus d)(2s_1 - 1, s_2, \dots, s_n) & s_1 \in [1/2, 1] \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} \mu(a(2s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n), c(2s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)) & s_1 \in [0, 1/2] \\ \mu(b(2s_1 - 1, s_2, \dots, s_n), d(2s_1 - 1, s_2, \dots, s_n)) & s_1 \in [1/2, 1] \end{cases} \\ &= \mu(a + b, c + d) \\ &= (a + b) \oplus (c + d) \end{aligned}$$

□

**Exercise (4.1.19).** Consider the equivalence relation  $\simeq_w$  generated by weak homotopy equivalence:  $X \simeq_w Y$  if there are spaces  $X = X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n = Y$  with weak homotopy equivalences  $X_i \rightarrow X_{i+1}$  or  $X_i \leftarrow X_{i+1}$  for each  $i$ . Show that  $X \simeq_w Y$  iff  $X$  and  $Y$  have a common CW approximation.

*Solution.* ( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $Z$  is a common CW approximation of  $X$  and  $Y$ , that is,  $Z$  is a CW complex and there are weak homotopy equivalences  $Z \rightarrow X$  and  $Z \rightarrow Y$ . Then the sequence of spaces  $X = X_1, Z = X_2$  and  $Y = X_3$  shows that  $X \simeq_w Y$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $Z$  is a CW approximation of  $X$  and let's show it can be made (somehow) into a CW approximation of  $Y$ . There is a weak homotopy equivalence  $Z \rightarrow X$ , and also a weak homotopy equivalence either  $X = X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  or  $X = X_1 \leftarrow X_2$ . I wonder if this implies that the composition  $Z \rightarrow X = X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  is also a weak homotopy equivalence □

**Exercise (4.2.1).** Use homotopy groups to show that there is no retraction  $\mathbb{R}P^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}P^k$  for  $n > k > 0$ .

*Solution (in progress...)* Suppose there is a retraction

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathbb{R}P^k & \hookrightarrow & \mathbb{R}P^n & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R}P^k \\ & & \searrow & \nearrow & \\ & & \text{id} & & \end{array}$$

it induces isomorphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \pi_i(\mathbb{R}P^k) & \longrightarrow & \pi_i(\mathbb{R}P^n) & \longrightarrow & \pi_i(\mathbb{R}P^k) \\ & & \searrow & \nearrow & \\ & & \cong & & \end{array}$$

and then just notice that that map is zero. Indeed, recall that the homotopy groups of a covering space are the same as the base (because the homotopy groups of the fibers are trivial), so we have that  $\pi_k(\mathbb{R}P^k) \rightarrow \pi_k(\mathbb{R}P^n) = 0 \rightarrow \pi_k(\mathbb{R}P^k)$  will be zero.  $\square$

**Exercise (4.2.2).** Show the action of  $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}P^n)$  on  $\pi_n(\mathbb{R}P^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  is trivial for  $n$  odd and nontrivial for  $n$  even.

**Exercise (4.2.8).** Show that the suspension of an acyclic CW complex is contractible.

*Solution.* (Warning: there are acyclic spaces with non-trivial homotopy groups.) Let's try to use Hurewicz theorem. Recall that by Freudenthal suspension theorem (coro 4.2.4) that if  $X$  is  $n$ -connected, then  $\pi_k(X) \rightarrow \pi_{k+1}(\Sigma X)$  is an isomorphism for  $k \leq 2n$ . This makes  $\pi_1$  of the suspension trivial.  $\square$

**Exercise (4.2.12).** Show that a map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  of connected CW complexes is a homotopy equivalence if it induces an isomorphism on  $\pi_1$  and if a lift  $\tilde{f} : \tilde{X} \rightarrow \tilde{Y}$  to the universal covers induces an isomorphism on homology. [The latter condition can be restated in terms of homology with local coefficients as saying that  $f_* : H_*(X; \mathbb{Z}[\pi_1 X]) \rightarrow H_*(Y; \mathbb{Z}[\pi_1 Y])$  is an isomorphism].

**Exercise (4.2.13).** Show that a map between connected  $n$ -dimensional CW complexes is a homotopy equivalence if it induces an isomorphism on  $\pi_i$  for  $i \leq n$ . [Pass to universal covers and use homology.]

*Solution.* Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be  $n$ -dimensional CW complexes and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f_* : \pi_i(X) \rightarrow \pi_i(Y)$  is an isomorphism for  $i \leq n$ . Let's try to use Hurewicz theorem, which states that a map between simply connected CW complexes is a homotopy equivalence if it induces isomorphisms on all homology groups.

Consider the universal covers  $\tilde{X}$  and  $\tilde{Y}$ , which are simply connected and also [have CW structures](#). By prop. 4.1, the cover projections induce isomorphisms in the homotopy groups for all  $i \geq 2$ . By [StackExchange](#) there is a unique lift  $\tilde{f}$  to the universal covers making the diagram on the left commute, and by functoriality the diagram on the right also commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{X} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} & \tilde{Y} \\ p \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} \pi_i(\tilde{X}) & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}_*} & \pi_i(\tilde{Y}) \\ p_* \downarrow \cong & & \cong \downarrow q_* \\ \pi_i(X) & \xrightarrow{f_*} & \pi_i(Y) \end{array} \qquad i \geq 2$$

We conclude that  $\tilde{f}$  is a weak homotopy equivalence, and by prop. 4.21 it induces isomorphisms on homology groups. Finally, by Hurewicz theorem (coro. 4.33) it is an homotopy equivalence and so is  $f$ .  $\square$

**Exercise (4.2.15).** Show that a closed simply connected 3-manifold is homotopy equivalent to  $S^3$ .

*Solution.* Since both  $S^3$  and  $M$  are simply connected, by Whitehead's theorem it suffices to construct a map  $M \rightarrow S^3$  that induces isomorphisms on  $\pi_n(X, x_0)$ . To construct the map first notice that  $M$  is 2-connected. To see that  $\pi_2(M) = 0$  we notice that  $H^2(M) \cong H_1(M) \cong \pi_1^{\text{ab}}(X) \cong 0$  by Poincaré duality. By Universal Coefficient Theorem (?), we see that (the free-torsion part is the same in homology and cohomology, yielding)  $H_2(M) = 0$  too. Now we use Hurewicz theorem, which tells us that the first non-zero homotopy group is isomorphic to the first non-zero homology group via the Hurewicz map  $h : \pi_3(M) \cong H_3(M)$ . Further, since  $M$  is simply-connected, it is orientable by prop. 3.25, and by thm 3.26  $H_3(M) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

The generator of  $\pi_3(M)$  is the map we need to apply Whitehead's theorem. Indeed, it is a map  $f : S^3 \rightarrow M$  such that  $h[f] = f_*(\alpha)$  with  $\alpha$  a generator of  $H_n(D^n, \partial D^n)$ , is a generator of  $H_3(M)$  by definition of the Hurewicz map. In other words,  $f_*$  maps generator to generator and thus is an isomorphism. Since the other homotopy groups are zero, we are done.  $\square$

**Exercise (4.2.31).** For a fiber bundle  $F \rightarrow E \rightarrow B$  such that the inclusion  $F \hookrightarrow E$  is homotopic to a constant map, show that the long exact sequence of homotopy groups breaks into split short exact sequences giving isomorphisms  $\pi_n(B) \cong \pi_n(E) \oplus \pi_{n-1}(F)$ . In particular, for the Hopf bundles  $S^3 \rightarrow S^7 \rightarrow S^4$  and  $S^7 \rightarrow S^{15} \rightarrow S^8$  this yields isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_n(S^4) &\cong \pi_n(S^7) \oplus \pi_{n-1}(S^3) \\ \pi_n(S^8) &\cong \pi_n(S^{15}) \oplus \pi_{n-1}(S^7)\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\pi_7(S^4)$  and  $\pi_5(S^{15}) \oplus \pi_{n-1}(S^7)$  contain  $\mathbb{Z}$  summands.

*Solution.* Consider the long exact sequence in homotopy,

$$\cdots \rightarrow \pi_i(F) \rightarrow \pi_i(E) \rightarrow \pi_i(B) \rightarrow \pi_{i-1}(F) \rightarrow \pi_{i-1}(E) \rightarrow \cdots$$

This yields

$$0 \rightarrow \pi_i(E) \rightarrow \pi_i(B) \rightarrow \pi_{i-1}(F) \rightarrow 0.$$

We want to show that this sequence splits, show we may show that there is a backward arrow on the right part of the diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
S^{n-1} & \longrightarrow & F \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
D^n & \dashrightarrow & E \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
D^n/S^{n-1} \cong S^n & \longrightarrow & B
\end{array}$$

□

**Exercise (4.2.32).** Show that if  $S^k \rightarrow S^m \rightarrow S^n$  is a fiber bundle, then  $k = n - 1$  and  $m = 2n - 1$ . [Look at the long exact sequence of homotopy groups.]

*Solution (in progress...)* From the previous exercise we have

$$\pi_i(S^n) = \pi_i(S^m) \oplus \pi_{i-1}(S^k).$$

Notice that the inclusion of the fiber in the total space is homotopic to a constant map because this is a fibration, ie. there are local neighbourhoods in the base where the preimage looks like  $\mathbb{R}^n \times S^n$ , implying that  $n + k = m$ , that is,  $k < m$ . So  $\pi_k(S^m) = 0$ .

Now if we take  $i = n$ , we get that

$$\mathbb{Z} \cong \pi_n(S^m) \oplus \pi_{n-1}(S^k).$$

Now observe that

- If  $k = 0$  and  $n = m > 1$  then  $S^n = S^m$  is simply-connected and there is no non-trivial covering  $S^m \rightarrow S^n$ .
- $k = 0$  and  $m = n = 1$ , then there is  $S^0 \rightarrow S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ .
- $k > 0$  then  $n < m$ , so  $\pi_n(S^m) = 0$  and then  $\mathbb{Z} \cong \pi_{n-1}(S^k)$ . This means that  $n - 1 \geq k$ .

Now choose  $i = k + 1$ . We get that

$$\pi_{k+1}(S^n) \cong \pi_{k+1}(S^m) \oplus \mathbb{Z}.$$

This means that, since  $m = n + k$  because fiber bundle, we have  $n + k \geq 2k + 1 > k + 1$ . This implies that  $\pi_{k+1}(S^m) = 0$ . Finally  $\pi_{k+1}(S^n) \cong \mathbb{Z} \implies k + 1 \geq n$ . □

**Exercise (4.2.34).** Let  $p : S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  be the Hopf bundle and let  $q : T^3 \rightarrow S^3$  be the quotient map collapsing the complement of a ball in the 3-dimensional torus  $T^3 = S^1 \times S^1 \times S^1$  to a point. Show that  $pq : T^3 \rightarrow S^2$  induces the trivial map on  $\pi_*$  and  $\tilde{H}_*$ , but is not homotopic to a constant map.

*Solution.* First let's show that  $pq$  induces a trivial map on  $\pi_*$  and  $\tilde{H}_*$ . Recall that the product behaves good in homotopy groups, so that  $\pi_1(T^3) \cong \mathbb{Z}^3$  and  $\pi_i(T^3) \cong 0$  for  $i > 1$ .

Now, notice that fiber bundles are Hurewicz fibrations (over second countable manifolds). This gives us a lift

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T^3 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & S^3 \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \text{dashed} & \downarrow \\ T^3 \times I & \xrightarrow{\quad} & S^2 \end{array}$$

We get a map  $g : T^3 \rightarrow S^3$  that factors through the fiber

$$\begin{array}{ccc} g : H_3(T^3) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & H_3(S^3) \\ & \searrow \quad \swarrow & \\ & H_3(S^1) & \end{array}$$

which makes  $f_* : H_3(T^3) \rightarrow H_3(S^3)$  an isomorphism.

□

**Exercise.** There is a fiber sequence  $U(n) \hookrightarrow U(n+1) \rightarrow U(n+1)/U(n) \cong S^{2n+1}$ . Use this to show that  $\pi_k(U(n)) \rightarrow \pi_k(U(n+1))$  is isomorphism for  $n > k/2$ . Compute  $\pi_k(U(n))$  for  $n \geq 2$  and  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . In fact, if  $k$  is even then  $\pi_k(U(N)) = 0$  and if  $k$  is odd then  $\pi_k(U(N)) = \mathbb{Z}$ , where again  $N > k/2$ . These equalities are known as Bott periodicity.

*Solution.* The required isomorphisms  $\pi_k(U(n)) \rightarrow \pi_k(U(n+1))$  follow simply from the fact that  $S^{2n+1}$  is  $2n+1$ -connected: in the long homotopy sequence of the fiber bundle we have

$$\pi_{k+1}(S^{2n+1}) \longrightarrow \pi_k(U(n)) \longrightarrow \pi_k(U(n+1)) \longrightarrow \pi_k(S^{2n+1})$$

so when  $2n+1 > k+1 \iff n > k/2$  the homotopy groups of the spheres vanish and we have an isomorphism.

The group  $\pi_1(U(n))$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$ . This follows from the fact that  $U(1)$  is homeomorphic to a circle and by induction using the former isomorphism  $\pi_1(U(n)) \cong \pi_1(U(n+1))$ . We also have  $\pi_2(U(1)) = 0$ , so that again by induction we get  $\pi_2(U(n)) = 0$ . Finally, a similar argument shows  $\pi_3(U(n)) = 0$ . □

## cohomology ring of $\mathbb{CP}^n$

**Exercise.** Show that

$$H^\bullet(\mathbb{CP}^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]/(\alpha^{n+1})$$

where  $\alpha$  has degree 2.

*Proof.* The CW structure of  $\mathbb{CP}^n$  consists of one cell for every even dimension. This gives us the following chain complex:

$$\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}, \quad \text{if } n \text{ is even}$$

$$\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow 0, \quad \text{if } n \text{ is odd}$$

which yields the cohomology

$$H^i(\mathbb{CP}^n) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}, & i = 0, 2, 4, \dots, 2n \\ 0, & i \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

so that

$$H^\bullet(\mathbb{CP}^n) = H^0(\mathbb{CP}^n) \oplus H^2(\mathbb{CP}^n) \oplus \dots \oplus H^{2n}(\mathbb{CP}^n)$$

This means that the underlying group of the cohomology ring is the same as that of

$$\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]/(\alpha^{n+1})$$

where  $\alpha$  has degree 2. To show that these groups are also isomorphic as algebras we can use Poincaré duality as follows.

Consider the case  $n = 2$ , where we may immediately multiply the generator of second cohomology group with itself:

$$\begin{aligned} H^2(\mathbb{CP}^2) \times H^2(\mathbb{CP}^2) &\rightarrow H^4(\mathbb{CP}^2) \\ (\alpha, \alpha) &\mapsto \alpha \smile \alpha = \alpha^2 \end{aligned}$$

By Poincaré duality this map is a nondegenerate symmetric bilinear form, so it must map generator to a generator. **The fact that the product of the generator in degree 2 is the generator of degree 4** yields an homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : \mathbb{Z}[\alpha] &\rightarrow H^\bullet(\mathbb{CP}^n) \\ \alpha &\mapsto \alpha \in H^2(\mathbb{CP}^n) \end{aligned}$$

with kernel  $(\alpha^{n+1})$  as desired.

Now the case of  $\mathbb{CP}^3$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} H^2(\mathbb{CP}^3) \times H^4(\mathbb{CP}^3) &\rightarrow H^6(\mathbb{CP}^3) \\ (\alpha, \alpha^2) &\mapsto \alpha \smile \alpha^2 = \alpha^3 \end{aligned}$$

which also maps generator to generator, producing the desired algebra isomorphism. Notice we have used the group isomorphism  $H^4(\mathbb{CP}^3) \approx H^4(\mathbb{CP}^2)$  when denoting the generator of  $H^4(\mathbb{CP}^3)$  as  $\alpha^2$ . Such an isomorphism is induced by inclusion  $\mathbb{CP}^{n-1} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{CP}^n$  via relative cohomology exact sequence.

The case for dimension  $n$  follows by induction. □



## spectral sequences

Here I assemble some examples we worked on in the lectures.

First let's make a spectral sequences quick summary following **hatcher**:

1. Suppose a space  $X$  is expressed a union of a sequence of subspaces  $\dots \subset X_p \subset X_{p+1} \subset \dots$ . Such a sequence is called a **filtration of  $X$** . For example,  $X$  could be a CW complex and  $X_p$  its  $p$ -skeleton.
2. Given such a filtration, for every  $p$  we have a pair  $(X_p, X_{p-1})$  that yields a long exact sequence. All these long exact sequences can be arranged in a staricase fashion:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 H_{p+q}(X_p) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & H_{p+q}(X_p/X_{p-1}) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & H_{p+q-1}(X_{p-1}) & \rightarrow & H_{p+q-1}(X_{p-1}/X_{p-2}) \rightarrow \dots \\
 \downarrow i & & \downarrow & & \downarrow i & & \downarrow \\
 H_{p+q}(X_{p+1}) & \rightarrow & H_{p+q}(X_{p+1}/X_p) & \rightarrow & H_{p+q-1}(X_p) & \xrightarrow{\quad j \quad} & H_{p+q-1}(X_p/X_{p-1}) \xrightarrow{\quad k \quad} \dots \\
 \downarrow i & & \downarrow & & \downarrow i & & \downarrow \\
 \dots & & \dots & & \dots & & \dots
 \end{array}$$

3. If you put all the absolute groups  $H_n(X_p)$  in a big  $A = \bigoplus_{n,p \in \mathbb{N}} H_n(X_p)$  and all the relative  $H_n(X_p, X_{p-1})$  in a big  $E = \bigoplus_{n,p \in \mathbb{N}} H_n(X_p, X_{p-1})$ , you can write all those long exact sequences in a compact triangle diagram called an **exact couple** triangle diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{i} & A \\
 \swarrow k & E & \nwarrow j
 \end{array}$$

here the maps  $i, j$  and  $k$  are just the maps from the long exact sequences in the other big diagram (which makes the exact couple actually *exact*).

4. There is a nice way to define new groups  $A'$  and  $E'$  and maps between them that yield a **derived couple**, which is another exact couple. Namely,

- $A'_{n,p} := H_n(X_p)$
- $E'_{n,p} := H_n(X_p, X_{p-1})$ .
- $d := jk$
- $E' := \ker d / \text{img } d$ , the homology of  $E$  respect to  $d$ .
- $A' := i(A) \subset A$ .
- $i' := i|_{A'}$ .
- $j'(ia) := [ja] \in E'$ .
- $k'[e] := ke$ .

anyway, they are well defined and yield the exact

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A' & \xrightarrow{i'} & A' \\ & \nwarrow \quad \nearrow & \\ & E' & \end{array}$$

5. The sequence  $E, E', \dots$  is called a *spectral sequence*.
6. Notice two things:  $E^{r+1} = \ker d_r / \operatorname{img} d_r$  and that knowing  $E^r$  and  $d^r$  is enough to know  $E^{r+1}$  but not to know  $d_{r+1}$ .
7. As we pass to the derived couple,
  - Each group  $A_{n,p}^1$  is replaced by a *subgroup*  $A_{n,p}^2$ , the image of the term  $A^{\text{whatever}}$  above it under  $i$ .
  - The horizontal maps  $j$  now go one to the right and one up.
  - Each  $E_{n,p}^r$  is replaced by a subquotient of  $E_{n,p}^{r+1}$ , ie. a subgroup of a quotient.  
*In practice, if some  $E$  is zero then the next ones will also be zero...*
  - In the end, the differential  $d_r$  goes upward  $r - 1$  rows. *And  $r$  columns to the right?*
8. In the Serre spectral sequence all but finitely many terms in each  $E$  column are zero. This means that for big  $r$ ,  $d_r$  will vanish and then  $E_{n,p}^r$  will stabilize, meaning *they will be independent of  $r$* . These values are denoted  $E_{n,p}^\infty$ . This is implied by the first of the following three items that hold for Serre spectral sequences:
  - (a) All but finitely many of the maps in each  $A$ -column are isomorphisms. By exactness this is equivalent to saying that only finitely many terms in each  $E$  column are nonzero.
  - (b)  $A_{n,-\infty}^1 = 0$  for all  $n$ . *So this is just the  $n$ -th homology group of the first thing in the filtration  $\dots \subset X_p \subset X_{p+1} \subset \dots$*
  - (c)  $A_{n,\infty}^1 = 0$  for all  $n$ . *So maybe this is the  $n$ th homology of  $X$ .*
  - (d) *Can someone tell me what is the filtration?*
9. The filtration.
  - From the  $r$ th derived couple and the latter assumptions, we see that for very large  $r$ , maybe where  $A_{n,p+r=1}^1 = A_{n,\infty}^1$ , we shall define  $F_n^p := \ker A_{n,p}^1 \rightarrow A_{n,\infty}^1$ . And all this means is that  $F_n^p := \operatorname{img}(H_n(X_p) \rightarrow H_n(X))$  where the map  $H_n(X_p) \rightarrow H_n(X)$  is just the induced map by inclusion  $X_p \hookrightarrow X$ . (It turns out that in some lucky cases like Serre fibration, for  $p \gg n$  this map (on homology) is an isomorphism and we get the following construction regarding the filtration.)
  - The group  $\bigoplus_p F_n^p / F_n^{p-1}$  is called the *associated graded group of the filtered group*  $H_n(X)$ .

- The proposition (5.2) says that this graded is isomorphic to  $\bigoplus_p E_{n,p}^\infty$ .
- So this gives us

$$E_{p,q}^\infty \cong F_{p,q}^p / F_{p+q}^{p-1}$$

- And of course it is interesting because  $\text{gr } H_{p+q}(X) = \bigoplus_p F_{p+q}^p / F_{p+q}^{p-1}$ . It turns out that not always can we get  $H_{p+q}(X)$  from this information...

10. And then, the *Serre spectral sequence for homology*.

Let  $F \rightarrow X \rightarrow B$  be a fibration with  $B$  path-connected. If  $\pi_1(B)$  acts trivially on  $H_*(F; G)$ , then there is a spectral sequence  $\{E_{p,q}^r, d_r\}$  with

- $d_r : E_{p,q}^r \rightarrow E_{p-q,q+r-1}^r$  and  $E_{p,q}^{r+1} = \ker d_r / \text{img } d_r$  at  $E_{p,q}^r$ .
- Stable terms  $E_{p,n-p}^\infty$  are isomorphic to the successive quotients  $F_n^p / F_n^{p-1}$  in a filtration

$$0 \subset F_n^0 \subset \dots \subset F_n^n = H_n(X; G)$$

of  $H_n(X; G)$ .

- $E_{p,q}^2 \cong H_p(B; H_q(F; G))$ .

11. And then, the *Serre spectral sequence for cohomology*.

Let  $F \rightarrow X \rightarrow B$  be a Serre fibration with  $\pi_0(B) = 0$  such that the action  $\pi_1(B) \curvearrowright H^*(F; G)$  is trivial.

Then there is a spectral sequence  $\{E_r^{p,q}, d_r\}$  such that

- $d_r : E_r^{p,q} \rightarrow E_r^{p+r,q-r+q}$ ;  $E_{r+1}^{p,q} = \ker d_r / \text{img } d_r$ .
- $E_\infty^{p,q} \cong F_{p+q}^{p+q} / F_{p+q}^{p+q-1}$ ;  $0 \subset F_{p+q}^{p+q} \subset \dots \subset F_0^{p+q} = H^{p+q}(X, G)$ , this is the filtration!.
- $E_2^{p,q} = H^p(B, H^q(F, G))$ .
- $E_2^{p,q} \times E_2^{s,t} \rightarrow E_2^{p+s,q+t}$ , which is given by  $(-1)^{qs}$ .

$$H^p(B, H^q(F, R)) \times H^s(B, H^t(F, R)) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^{p+s}(B, H(F, R))$$

now supposing that  $G = R$  is a ring.

- This

$$F_p^m \times F_s^n \xrightarrow{\sim} F_{p+s}^{m+n}$$

induces

$$F_p^m / F_{p+1}^m \times F_s^n / F_{s+1}^n \rightarrow F_{p+s}^{m+n} / F_{p+s+1}^{m+n}$$

and is

$$F_\infty^{p,m-p} \times E_\infty^{s,n-s} \rightarrow E_\infty^{p+s,m+n-p-s}$$

Ok, here are some questions:

1. What was the action of  $\pi_1(F)$  on  $H_*(F, G)$ ? Is there some intuition about this? There is an action of  $\pi_1(X)$  on  $\pi_n(X)$ .
2. Was the point of Serre classes to show that homotopy groups of the sphere are finitely generated? How did this go, using Hurewicz theorem?
3. Wang and Gysin exact sequences.
4. Transgression.

Here are some answers:

**action of  $\pi_1$  on homology.**

Ok, so, some exercises now.

The first one is from **sssguide**, which a nice first example but it is kind of cheating since we must use previous knowledge of the cohomology of spheres for it to make sense.

**Exercise (my first Serre spectral sequence).** Consider the Serre fibration  $S^1 \rightarrow S^3 \rightarrow S^2$ . Always remember that

$$E_{p,q}^2 = H_p(B; H_q(F; G)).$$

Or, as in **sssguide**,

$$E_2^{s,t} = H^s(B, H^t(F)).$$

We see that the second page is

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & \downarrow p & & \\ \xrightarrow{q} & \mathbb{Z} & \leftarrow & 0 & \mathbb{Z} \\ & \mathbb{Z} & & \searrow d & \\ & & & 0 & \mathbb{Z} \end{array}$$

Also always remember that

$$\begin{aligned} E_{r+1}^{s,t} &= \ker d_r / \text{img } d_r \\ &= \frac{\ker d_r : E_r^{s,t} \rightarrow E_r^{s+r,t+1-r}}{\text{img } d_r : E_r^{s-r,t-1+r} \rightarrow E_r^{s,t}} \end{aligned}$$

Then you can see that the third page is

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathbb{Z}/\text{img } d_2 & & 0 & & \mathbb{Z} \\ & & & & \\ \mathbb{Z} & & 0 & & \mathbb{Z}/\text{img } d_2 \end{array}$$

so  $E^3 = E^\infty$ .

## References

- [1] A. Hatcher. *Algebraic topology*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2000 (cit. on pp. [3](#), [4](#), [10](#)).
- [2] J.P. May. *A Concise Course in Algebraic Topology*. Chicago Lectures in Mathematics. University of Chicago Press, 1999. ISBN: 9780226511832 (cit. on p. [10](#)).
- [3] H.R. Miller. *Lectures On Algebraic Topology*. World Scientific Publishing Company, 2021. ISBN: 9789811231261. URL: <https://books.google.com.br/books?id=LIZGEAAQBAJ> (cit. on pp. [4](#), [5](#)).
- [4] Emily Riehl. *Homotopical categories: from model categories to  $(\infty, 1)$ -categories*. 2020. arXiv: [1904.00886](#) [[math.AT](#)] (cit. on p. [8](#)).